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**216B.2423 Wind power mandate.**

Subdivision 1. **Mandate.** A public utility, as defined in section [216B.02](#), subdivision 4, that operates a nuclear-powered electric generating plant within this state must construct and operate, purchase, or contract to construct and operate: (1) 225 megawatts of electric energy installed capacity generated by wind energy conversion systems within the state by December 31, 1998; and (2) an additional 200 megawatts of installed capacity so generated by December 31, 2002.

Subd. 2a. **Site preference.** The public utilities commission shall ensure that a utility subject to the requirements of subdivision 1, clause (2), shall implement that clause with a preference for wind energy conversion systems within the state. This preference shall not prevent the utility from constructing or contracting to construct wind energy conversion systems outside the state, if the public utilities commission determines that selection of a facility within the state conflicts with the requirements of section [216B.03](#).

**216B.03 Reasonable rate.**

Every rate made, demanded, or received by any public utility, or by any two or more public utilities jointly, shall be just and reasonable. Rates shall not be unreasonably preferential, unreasonably prejudicial or discriminatory, but shall be sufficient, equitable and consistent in application to a class of consumers. To the maximum reasonable extent, the commission shall set rates to encourage energy conservation and renewable energy use and to further the goals of sections [216B.164](#), [216B.241](#), and [216C.05](#). Any doubt as to reasonableness should be resolved in favor of the consumer. For rate making purposes a public utility may treat two or more municipalities served by it as a single class wherever the populations are comparable in size or the conditions of service are similar.